THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Board for industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) was set up under the provisions of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 with a view to tackle the issue of industrial sickness in an effective manner, to secure timely detection of sick and potentially sick companies owning industrial undertakings, speedy determination by BIFR of the preventive, ameliorative, remedial and other measures which were required to be taken with respect to such companies and the expeditious enforcement of the measures so determined.

(b) and (c) BIFR mechanism has not been completely successful in effectively tackling the problem of industrial sickness. Major reasons for this *inter-alia* include restrictive definition of sickness, excessive protection to sick industrial companies under section 22 of SICA for automatic stay on all proceedings, slow and dilatory BIFR procedures and excessively long time taken for disposal of cases etc. The review of SICA is contemplated in order to address the problem of Industrial sickness in an effective manner.

Liberalisation of foreign exchange transactions

2036. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that RBI has further liberalised foreign exchange transactions; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of the liberalised foreign exchange transactions are given in the Annexure. [*See* Appendix 189, Annexure no. 59]

RBI's Confidential List of Defalulters

2037. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem which appeared in the "Indian Express" of 3rd January, 2000 publishing the RBI's confidential list of loan defaulters; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to recover the loan from the defaulters alongwith names of defaulters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Government's attention has been drawn to the news item.

(b) The steps taken by the Reserve Bank of India, Government of India and the public sector banks include the preparation of documents of loan recovery policy, reduction through negotiated settlement ensuring maximum recovery at minimum cost, strengthening the Debt Recovery Tribunal mechanism, setting up of settlement advisory committees and focusing on recoveries by setting up rocovery cells at Head Offices.

Under the banking laws in force disclosures of names of borrowers of bans and financial institutions is not permissible except in the circumstances provided in the various statutes.

Default in Repaying Loan Taken by Sol-Pharma

2038. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the status of Sol-Pharma, a Hyderabad based company in BIFR;

(b) whether IDBI had given a massive amount for bailing out the company;

(c) whether the company has wilfully defaulted in repaying any of the amount it had taken from Allahabad Bank, if so, where the money has been siphoned off;

(d) the manner in which the Bank propose to recover the money; and

(e) by when the company is planning to pay back the money taken through the Alday cash-Bond?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that SOL pharmaceuticals Ltd. has been declared as a sick industrial company by BIFR at its hearing held on February 1, 1999 and IDBI was appointed as Operating Agency (OA) for preparation of rehabilitation scheme. The revival scheme submitted by the company was discussed at the last BIFR hearing held on February 23,2000. BIFR has given further time to the company to finalise an acceptable revival scheme.